

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Presented) A sensor according to claim 11, further comprising an automatically readjusting threshold switch.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A detection device according to claim 12, wherein an obstruction situation is detected when a selection of several sensors are responding.

5. (Previously Presented) A detection device according to claim 12, wherein the motor driven device, for which an obstruction of objects or body parts is detected, is a convertible top of a convertible vehicle.

6. (Currently Amended) A detection device according to claim 5, wherein the sensors are located in the area of elements that are connected with each other by hinge-like connections and that are elements of a convertible top linkage and/or a tensioning bow [[and/or]] or a convertible top compartment cover and/or a windshield frame and/or an area adjacent to a window.

7. (Previously Presented) A detection device according to claim 5, wherein the sensors that are used to detect an obstruction situation are located between a sealing section and/or trim parts and their support.

8. (Previously Presented) A detection device according to claim 5, wherein the capacitive sensor system is interacting with a sensor system that uses measurements based on a different measuring principle in order to detect an interference into the range of motion of the convertible top mechanism wherein, after a malfunction of the detection device or an obstruction situation is

recognized, the convertible top motion is controlled by a control device in a safety mode, in which the convertible top motion continues with reduced speed and power or is stopped or reversed.

9. (Previously Presented) A detection_device according to claim 8, wherein the capacitive sensor system interacts with an optical sensor system.

10. (Previously Presented) A detection device according to claim 9, wherein a safety mode is started when a malfunction is recognized in the optical sensor system.

11. (Currently Amended) A ~~capacitance~~ capacitive sensor for detection of an ~~obstruction~~ obstruction of a motor driven device by an object or a body part, comprising:

- a generally flat and film-like support;
- a multitude of electrodes arranged on one side of the support; and
- a means to measure a capacitance or a capacitance change;
- wherein ambient air represents the ~~dielectric~~ dielectric; and
- wherein the capacitive sensor can be deformed in all directions for installation.

12. (Previously Presented) A detection device, comprising:
a capacitive sensor system for detecting whether objects or body parts are obstructing a motor driven device, the system including a plurality of sensors, each sensor including;

- a generally flat and film-like support;
- a multitude of electrodes arranged on one side of the support; and
- a means to measure a capacitance or a capacitance change;
- wherein ambient air represents the dielectric.

13. (New) A capacitive sensor according to claim 11, wherein the support is mounted to an element of a convertible top.

14. (New) A detection system for detecting whether objects or body parts are obstructing a motor driven device, the system comprising:

a plurality of sensors, each sensor including;

a generally flat and film-like support;

a multitude of electrodes arranged on one side of the support; and

a means to measure a capacitance or a capacitance change;

wherein ambient air represents the dielectric;

a control in communication with the plurality of sensors, the control indicating a change in ambient conditions when all of the plurality of sensors measure a capacitance change and the control indicating an obstruction situation when a selection of the plurality of sensors measure a capacitance change.